

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 RSC-01 DRC-01

ISO-00 HUD-02 AID-20 CEQ-02 CIAE-00 COA-02 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-11 EPA-04 INR-10 L-03 NSF-04 NSC-07

NSAE-00 PM-07 SCI-06 SS-20 SP-03 FEA-02 OIC-04 PA-04

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4607

INFO USUN NEW YORK 558

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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E O 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV

SUBJ: UNEP: CG II, RECOMMENDATION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF INTER-
NATIONAL HABITAT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS FOUNDATION (IHHSF) -
ECOSOC CONSIDERATION

REF: STATE 125957

1. FROM MANILA WE SEE THREE DISTINCT POSITIONS OF SUBSTANCE UNEP
RESOLUTION CONTAINED IN REPORT OF GC II ON REF SUBJECT: (A) SEVERAL
DELEGATIONS, INCLUDING PROMINENT REPS FROM NON-ALIGNED GROUP, FAVOR
EARLY MERGER OF CENTER WITH IHHSF. THEIR CASE MUCH AS OURS BUILT
ON EFFICIENCY, ECONOMY, AND RESEARCH COMMITMENT TO RATIONALIZING
UN SYSTEM; (B) OTHER DELEGATIONS AMONG GROUP OF 77, AND NO DOUBT
PROMPTED BY OFFICIALS OF ESA, TAKE A GO-SLOW ATTITUDE AND ARE
SOMEWHAT DUBIOUS ABOUT TOTAL SUMERGENCE CENTER FOR HOUSING,
BUILDING, AND PLANNING INTO NEW FOUNDATION. UNDOUBTEDLY CANADIANS
ARE PROMINENT PROPONENTS THIS POSITION; (C) THE THIRD GROUP IS
CONTENDING THAT WHILE THE FOUNDATION SHOULD BE ACTIVATED AFTER THE
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29TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NO BINDING DECISIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN

PRIOR TO CONFEX 76. THIS IS VIEWPOINT SURFACED BY FORMER CENTER DIRECTOR CROOKS. HE ARGUES THAT IF FOUNDATION ACTIVATED AND CENTER INAUGURATED PRIOR TO CONFEX, MANY MINISTERIAL LEVEL REPS AT THE VANCOUVER CONFERENCE WILL FEEL IMPELLED TO TAKE FURTHER TANGIBLE MEASURES TO GIVE MEANING TO CONFEX. CROOKS REGARDS THIS POSSIBILITY AS A THREAT TO CONTINUED SUPPORT OF POTENTIAL DONOR STATES SUCH AS US, FRANCE, AND USSR.

2. SO FAR, AND IN ABSENCE OF BONNICK OF JAMAICA, WHO IS NO LONGER POSTED AT NEW YORK, WE FIND LITTLE EVIDENCE THAT ANY DELEGATIONS HERE HAVE GIVEN MUCH THOUGHT TO WHETHER DEFINITIVE DECISION SHOULD BE TAKEN AT THE 57TH SESSION OF ECOSOC. IN FACT, FRENCH AND USSR REPS HERE NOT THOROUGHLY FAMILIAR WITH PROLONGED NEGOTIATIONS AT NAIROBI.

3. IT IS CLEAR THAT IF USG PROPOSES TO PRESS FOR EXPEDITIOUS RESOLUTION PRESENT SITUATION, WE NEED WELL HONED SCENARIO AT GENEVA AND ADDITIONALLY MANPOWER THOROUGHLY CONVERSANT WITH INTRICATE DETAILS NAIROBI GCII NEGOTIATIONS. IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO ENTRUST UNTA ACTIVITIES PRESENTLY EXECUTED BY CENTER TO FUNDS PROBABLY UNDER SMALL HIGHLY COMPETENT MANAGEMENT STAFF. SUCH A POSTURE WOULD FORESTALL PROLONGED DEBATE ON WHERE TA PROGRAM SHOULD GO (E.G., UNIDO, UNDP, OR POSSIBLY ILO); AND ADVANTAGE FOUNDATION OF OVERHEAD PAYMENTS FROM UNDP WHICH AVERAGE OVER ONE MILLION DOLLARS PER YEAR. SINCE THESE FUNDS CONSIDERABLY IN EXCESS OF TA PROGRAM, MANAGEMENT COST EFFECT WOULD BE SUBSIDY TO FOUNDATION AND TO FURTHER FORESTALL ENCROACHMENT UPON UNEP VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

4. WE UNDERSTAND THAT SYG HAS FIRMLY COMMITTED PRESENT D II DIRECTORATE OF CENTER FOR HOUSING, BUILDING, AND PLANS TO AFRICANS AND FURTHER THAT DESEYNES USING THIS COMMITMENT AS PRIMARY ARGUMENT AGAINST TRANSFER ABOLITION OF CENTER. IF SUCH A FINAL DECISION IS TO BE FORESTALLED, IT WOULD REQUIRE MODIFICATION OF COMMITMENT WHICH ALLEGEDLY MADE TO AFRICAN GROUP.

5. FYI: THERE IS CONSIDERABLE RESENTMENT OF THIS COMMITMENT AMONG SEVERAL DELEGATIONS, NON-AFRICAN, AND INDEED AMONG AFRICANS THAT THEY ARE BEING SERVED A DEAD HORSE. IT COULD BE PERSUASIVELY ARGUED THAT THE SYG SHOULD ACCOMMODATE ALLEGED DIFFICIENCIES IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SENIOR APPOINTMENTS OF AFRICAN PERSONNEL ELSEWHERE IN THE SYSTEM. IT IS ALSO TRUE THAT THIS ARGUMENT IS SOMEWHAT WEAKENED BY THE EMERGENCE OF M'BOW AS DG OF UNESCO AND DJERIMIKOYE AS COMMISSIONER FOR TA.

6. BELIEVE THAT FUTURE OF COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, BUILDING, AND PLANNING CAN BEST BE HANDLED IN COURSE OF RATIONALIZATION ITEM SLATED FOR CONSIDERATION NEXT MONTH AT GENEVA. BY AND LARGE

ATTITUDE OF LEADING EXPERTS ON RATIONALIZATION PRESENT HERE IS ONE
OF RELATIVE INDIFFERENCE PARTICULARLY SINCE CROOKS NO LONGER ENDANGERED

BY ACTIONS ASKING EITHER COMMITTEE OR CENTER. THE DEPARTMENT WILL
RECALL THAT CENTER WAS THE ISSUE USED BY TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO TO STAVE
EARLIER NEAR SUCCESSFUL EFFORTS IN RESPECT OF BOTH THE COMMITTEE
AND THE CENTER. SULLIVAN

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